



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

Lee Holloway

Chairman of the Board

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For Immediate Release

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COUNTY AUDIT OF PATIENT & STAFF SAFETY IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION

Long-range decision on proper care model for Mental Health Complex

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following statement after reviewing an [Audit](#) released this week assessing patient and staff safety at the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division (BHD):

“The audit shows that Milwaukee County has taken significant steps to address the deficiencies raised by the State of Wisconsin. BHD has also implemented most of the corrective measures recommended by the Sheriff to enhance security at the institution. In addition, despite what was reported in the local media, the audit did not find any evidence to support a conclusion that BHD employees falsified records.

“From a big picture standpoint, the County will have to make some decisions on a care model moving forward. It’s clear that the current care model is not suited for particularly aggressive patients. I may have some ideas on this over the next few months.

“I thank the Department of Audit for performing this analysis. The entire community should review this audit and provide input to the County Board’s Health & Human Needs Committee, which will provide continued oversight of our mental health care. We at the County Board will continue to monitor any additional safety issues that arise to ensure the most vulnerable individuals in our community receive the care that they need.”

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